Dad Was Told By Mother

I’ve watched one Congressman.
Know his district well,suburbs
and rough urban slums. Men

and women gentle as old widows,
and cutthroats and graduate

jailbirds. He came in raw,
awkward. Acquired knowledge
and polish—that is

became a pretty good
leader and legislator,quite
a plus for constituents--

as he stuffed his pockets
in the various clever ways
of many of his fellows.

Can’t we have one
without the other?

Or do you learn
from each area

what is necessary
to improve in both?